

1 the agency tasked with calculating the length of the offender's sentence, taking into account
2 the various factors that impact the length of the sentence; and

3 WHEREAS, with more than half of that population being housed in various parish
4 facilities and work release centers across the state, and the remainder being housed in the
5 state's nine correctional facilities, it is important for DPS&C to have centralized, accurate,
6 and up-to-date information on all of the offenders committed to its custody; and

7 WHEREAS, in 2017, the Louisiana Legislative Auditor evaluated the Department
8 of Public Safety and Corrections' management of offender data, including its processes for
9 ensuring the accuracy of that data; and

10 WHEREAS, in the audit, the legislative auditor recognized the efforts of legislators
11 and criminal justice stakeholders in working toward prison reform, and stated that the
12 success of these reform efforts is largely dependent upon having accurate and complete
13 information on Louisiana's offender population; and

14 WHEREAS, it is important for DPS&C to have strong policies and procedures to
15 effectively manage offender data, to track offender locations, to calculate offender release
16 dates, and to ensure the accuracy of this information.

17 THEREFORE, the Legislature of Louisiana requests the House Committee on
18 Judiciary, or a subcommittee thereof, and the House Committee on Administration of
19 Criminal Justice, or a subcommittee thereof, to meet and to function as a joint committee to
20 study the procedures for processing sentences imposed after a criminal conviction and the
21 procedures for calculating incarceration release dates as they relate to those persons
22 committed to the custody of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, and to report
23 the findings of the joint committee to the legislature prior to the convening of the 2020
24 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

25 THEREFORE, the Legislature of Louisiana further requests that the joint committee
26 solicit input, information, data, recommendations, and advice from the following:

27 (1) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

28 (2) The Louisiana Clerks of Court Association.

29 (3) The Louisiana Sheriffs' Association.

30 (4) The office of the governor.

1 (5) The Louisiana Supreme Court.

2 (6) The Louisiana District Judges Association.

3 (7) The Louisiana District Attorneys Association.

4 (8) The Louisiana Public Defender Board.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may seek input, information, and
6 data from any persons, agencies, entities, or stakeholders that it deems necessary to fulfill
7 the purposes of this Request.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Jackson

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